

**WE CLAIM:**

- 1 1. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 a timing apparatus for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;  
7 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
8 clock signal;  
9 a first interpolator for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period of  
10 time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
11 within the phase-locked loop; and  
12 a second interpolator, responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and connected to  
13 the phase-locked loop for modifying the output clock signal for synchronously  
14 writing data to the rotating disk..
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a selector for selecting between a read  
2 mode and a write mode.<sup>4</sup>
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolator to an output of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors  
3 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.

- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first interpolator is located in the feedback  
2 portion of the phase locked loop.
- 1 8. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 a timing apparatus for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;  
7 a selector for selecting between a read mode and a write mode;  
8 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
9 clock signal;  
10 a first interpolator for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period of  
11 time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
12 within the phase-locked loop; and  
13 a second interpolator, responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and connected to  
14 the phase-locked loop for modifying the output clock signal for synchronously  
15 writing data to the rotating disk.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors  
3 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the write mode is configured to connected the first  
2 interpolator in the feedback portion of the phase locked loop.

- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolator to an output of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 14. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 a timing apparatus for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;  
7 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
8 clock signal; and  
9 an interpolator for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period of time  
10 between two adjacent sectors for synchronously writing data to the rotating  
11 disk.
- 1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors  
3 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 16. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 18. An method for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously writing  
2 data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, wherein each sector has a  
3 synchronization mark, the method comprising:  
4 (a) determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the period  
5 of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;  
6 (b) generating an output clock signal, responsive to a reference frequency;

- 7 (c) interpolating the output clock signal from step (b) in response to the period of  
8 time between two adjacent sectors to form an adjusted clock output signal,  
9 wherein step (b) is further responsive to step (c); and  
10 (d) interpolating the adjusted clock output signal from step (c) in response to a  
11 pre-compensation adjustment for modifying the output clock signal to  
12 generate a variable clock signal.

1 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising selecting between a read mode and a  
2 write mode.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the read mode is configured to interpolate the output  
2 clock signal from step (b) to provide the variable clock signal, and wherein step (b) is  
3 responsive to the output clock signal.

4 21. The method of claim 18, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
5 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 22. The method of claim 18, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
2 provides an average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 23. An method for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously writing  
2 data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, wherein each sector has a  
3 synchronization mark, the method comprising:

- 4 (a) determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the period  
5 of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;  
6 (b) selecting between a read mode and a write mode;  
7 (c) generating an output clock signal, responsive to a reference frequency;  
8 (d) interpolating the output clock signal from step (c) in response to the period of  
9 time between two adjacent sectors to form an adjusted clock output signal; and  
10 (e) interpolating the adjusted clock output signal from step (d) in response to a  
11 pre-compensation adjustment for modifying the output clock signal to  
12 generate a variable clock signal.

- 1 24. The method of claim 23, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
2 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 25. The method of claim 23, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
2 provides an average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 26. The method of claim 23, wherein the write mode is configured for step (c) to be  
2 responsive to step (d).
- 1 27. The method of claim 23, wherein the read mode is configured to interpolate the output  
2 clock signal from step (c) to provide the variable clock signal, and wherein step (c) is  
3 responsive to the output clock signal.
- 1 28. A method for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously writing  
2 data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, wherein each sector has a  
3 synchronization mark, the method comprising:
- 4 (a) determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the period  
5 of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;
- 6 (b) generating an output clock signal, responsive to a reference frequency;
- 7 (c) interpolating the output clock signal from step (b) in response to the period of  
8 time between two adjacent sectors to form an adjusted clock output signal,  
9 wherein step (b) is further responsive to the output clock signal.
- 1 29. The method of claim 28, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
2 measures the time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 30. The method of claim 28, wherein determining the period of time between sectors  
2 provides an average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 31. A data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:
- 4 a disk having a surface for storing data thereon;
- 5 a controller for controlling rotational speed of the disk;

6 at least one head for reading or writing the data;  
7 an actuator for positioning the head;  
8 a communications channel for transmitting data to and from the at least one head;  
9 a timing apparatus for determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
10 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
11 rotation;  
12 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
13 clock signal;  
14 a first interpolator for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period of  
15 time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
16 within the phase-locked loop; and  
17 a second interpolator, responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and connected to  
18 the phase-locked loop for modifying the output clock signal for synchronously  
19 writing data to the rotating disk.

1 32. The system of claim 31, further comprising a selector for selecting between a read  
2 mode and a write mode.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolator to an output of the phase-locked loop.

1 34. The system of claim 31, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 35. The system of claim 31, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 36. The system of claim 31, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.

- 1 37. A data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:  
4 a disk having a surface for storing data thereon;  
5 a controller for controlling a rotational speed of the disk;  
6 at least one head for reading or writing the data;  
7 an actuator for positioning the head;  
8 a communications channel for transmitting data to and from the at least one head;  
9 a timing apparatus for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
10 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
11 rotation;  
12 a selector for switching between a read mode and a write mode;  
13 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
14 clock signal;  
15 a first interpolator for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period of  
16 time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
17 within the phase-locked loop; and  
18 a second interpolator, responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and connected to  
19 the phase-locked loop for modifying the output clock signal for synchronously  
20 writing data to the rotating disk.
- 1 38. The system of claim 37, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 39. The system of claim 37, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

- 1 40. The system of claim 37, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 41. The system of claim 37, wherein the write mode is configured to connected the first  
2 interpolator in the feedback portion of the phase locked loop.
- 1 42. The system of claim 37, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolator to an output of the phase-locked loop.
- 1 43. A data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:  
4 a disk having a surface for storing data thereon;  
5 a controller for controlling a rotational speed of the disk;  
6 at least one head for reading or writing the data;  
7 an actuator for positioning the head;  
8 a communications channel for transmitting data to and from the at least one head;  
9 a timing apparatus for determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
10 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
11 rotation;  
12 a phase-locked loop, responsive to a reference frequency for providing an output  
13 clock signal;  
14 an interpolator for adjusting the phase-locked loop output clock signal responsive to  
15 the period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the interpolator  
16 modifies the output clock signal for synchronously writing data to a rotating  
17 disk.
- 1 44. The system of claim 43, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the timing apparatus for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.



1 45. The system of claim 43, wherein the timing apparatus provides an average of the  
2 periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 46. The system of claim 43, wherein the phase-locked loop further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback portion of the phase-locked loop.

1 47. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:

4 timing apparatus for determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;

7 timing means having a feedback loop responsive to a reference frequency for  
8 providing an output clock signal;

9 first interpolation means for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period  
10 of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
11 within the timing means; and

12 second interpolation means responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and  
13 connected to the timing means for modifying the output clock signal for  
14 synchronously writing data to the rotating disk.

1 48. The apparatus of claim 47, further comprising a means for selecting between a read  
2 mode and a write mode.

1 49. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolation means to an output of the timing means.

1 50. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 51. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the means for determining the period provides an  
2 average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 52. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in the feedback loop.

1 53. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the first interpolation means is located in the  
2 feedback loop.

1 54. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:

4 timing apparatus for determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;

7 means for selecting between a read mode and a write mode;

8 timing means having a feedback loop responsive to a reference frequency for  
9 providing an output clock signal;

10 first interpolation means for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period  
11 of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
12 within the timing means; and

13 second interpolation means responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and  
14 connected to the timing means for modifying the output clock signal for  
15 synchronously writing data to the rotating disk.

1 55. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 56. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the means for determining the period provides an  
2 average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

- 1 57. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in the feedback loop.
- 1 58. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the write mode is configured to connected the first  
2 interpolation means in the feedback loop.
- 1 59. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolation means to an output of the timing means.
- 1 60. An apparatus for generating a variable frequency clock signal for synchronously  
2 writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 timing apparatus for determining a period of time between two adjacent sectors,  
5 wherein the period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase  
6 rotation;  
7 timing means having a feedback loop, responsive to a reference frequency for  
8 providing an output clock signal;  
9 an interpolation means for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period  
10 of time between two adjacent sectors for synchronously writing data to the  
11 rotating disk.
- 1 61. The apparatus of claim 60, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and  
2 wherein the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the  
3 time between two consecutive synchronization marks.
- 1 62. The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining the period provides an  
2 average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 63. The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase  
2 detector, a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider  
3 being located in a feedback loop.

1 64. A data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:  
4 means for storing data on the rotating disk;  
5 means for controlling a rotational speed of the disk;  
6 means for reading data from the disk or writing data to the disk;  
7 means for positioning the means for reading or writing data;  
8 means for communicating data to or from the means for reading or writing data;  
9 means for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the  
10 period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;  
11 timing means having a feedback loop, responsive to a reference frequency for  
12 providing an output clock signal;  
13 first interpolation means for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period  
14 of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolator is located  
15 within the timing means; and  
16 second interpolation means responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and  
17 connected to the timing means for modifying the output clock signal for  
18 synchronously writing data to the rotating disk.

1 65. The system of claim 64, further comprising a means for selecting between a read  
2 mode and a write mode.

1 66. The system of claim 65, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolation means to an output of the timing means.

1 67. The system of claim 64, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the time  
3 between two consecutive synchronization marks.

- 1 68. The system of claim 64, wherein the means for determining the period of time  
2 provides an average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.
- 1 69. The system of claim 64, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase detector,  
2 a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider being  
3 located in the feedback loop.
- 1 70. An data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:  
4 means for storing data on the rotating disk;  
5 means for rotating the disk;  
6 means for controlling the rotational speed of the disk;  
7 at least one means for reading data from the disk or writing data to the disk;  
8 means for positioning the means for reading or writing data;  
9 means for communicating data to the means for reading or writing data;  
10 means for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the  
11 period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;  
12 means for selecting between a read mode and a write mode;  
13 timing means having a feedback loop, responsive to a reference frequency for  
14 providing an output clock signal;  
15 first interpolation means for adjusting the output clock signal responsive to the period  
16 of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the first interpolation means is  
17 located within the timing means; and  
18 second interpolation means, responsive to a pre-compensation adjustment and  
19 connected to the timing means for modifying the output clock signal for  
20 synchronously writing data to the rotating disk.

1 71. The system of claim 70, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the time  
3 between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 72. The system of claim 70, wherein the means for determining the period provides an  
2 average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 73. The system of claim 70, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase detector,  
2 a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider being  
3 located in the feedback loop.

1 74. The system of claim 70, wherein the write mode is configured to connected the first  
2 interpolation means in the feedback loop.

1 75. The system of claim 70, wherein the read mode is configured to connect the first  
2 interpolation means to an output of the timing means.

1 76. An data recording disk drive system for generating a variable frequency clock signal  
2 for synchronously writing data to sectors on a rotating disk in a disk storage device,  
3 the apparatus comprising:

4 means for storing data on the rotating disk;

5 means for rotating the disk;

6 means for controlling the rotational speed of the disk;

7 at least one means for reading data from the disk or writing data to the disk;

8 means for positioning the means for reading or writing data;

9 means for communicating data to the means for reading or writing data;

10 means for determining the period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the  
11 period of time between two adjacent sectors relates to phase rotation;

12 timing means having a feedback loop, responsive to a reference frequency for  
13 providing an output clock signal;

14 interpolation means for adjusting the timing means output clock signal responsive to  
15 the period of time between two adjacent sectors, wherein the interpolation  
16 means modifies the output clock signal for synchronously writing data to a  
17 rotating disk.

1 77. The system of claim 76, wherein each sector has a synchronization mark, and wherein  
2 the means for determining the period of time between sectors measures the time  
3 between two consecutive synchronization marks.

1 78. The system of claim 76, wherein the means for determining the period provides an  
2 average of the periods between a plurality of synchronization marks.

1 79. The system of claim 76, wherein the timing means further comprises a phase detector,  
2 a low pass filter, a voltage controlled oscillator, and a divider, said divider being  
3 located in the feedback loop.

1 80. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.

1 81. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.

1 82. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.

1 83. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.

1 84. The method of claim 19, wherein the read mode is configured to disable interpolating  
2 the adjusted clock output signal from step (c).

1 85. The method of claim 19, wherein the write mode is configured to enable interpolating  
2 the output clock signal from step (b) and interpolating the adjusted clock output signal  
3 from step (c).

1 86. The method of claim 23, wherein the read mode is configured to disable interpolating  
2 the adjusted clock output signal from step (d).

- 1 87. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the write mode is configured to enable  
2 interpolating the output clock signal from step (c) and interpolating the adjusted clock  
3 output signal from step (d).
- 1 88. The system of claim 32, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 89. The system of claim 32, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.
- 1 90. The system of claim 37, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 91. The system of claim 37, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.
- 1 92. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 93. The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.
- 1 94. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 95. The apparatus of claim 54, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.
- 1 96. The system of claim 62, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 97. The system of claim 62, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.
- 1 98. The system of claim 70, wherein the read mode is configured to disable the second  
2 interpolator.
- 1 99. The system of claim 70, wherein the write mode is configured to enable the first  
2 interpolator and to enable the second interpolator.